

Observations regarding *Cydia illutana* (H.-S.) (Lep.: Tortricidae) in Essex

The first Essex example of this species was a female taken at light on 31 May 1997 at Markshall Estate, Coggeshall, and was subsequently kindly dissected and identified by Mr K. R. Tuck at The Natural History Museum, London. During 1999, I visited the site on a number of occasions to try and establish whether the moth was resident, searching principally the established stands of *Larix decidua*. On several trees I was able to see a number of candidate specimens flying among the uppermost branches, and rarely did they stray lower. With the help of a three-metre net handle and a precarious perch on a log pile I was able to secure just one of these, a male, on 28 May 1999. A mercury vapour lamp, positioned directly under the tree and only eight to 12 metres from where the moths had been flying, failed to attract any specimens. From this, it seems that males fly most strongly at dusk whereas females fly later at night when they are occasionally taken at light.

A full account of its occurrence in Britain, details supplied by A.M. Emmet (pers. comm.) is as follows:

The first specimen was taken by Dr J. Langmaid in his trap at Southsea, Hants (VC11) on 10 June 1975, but was at first misidentified until a second specimen was taken. Langmaid exhibited the first specimen (Langmaid, 1987. Exhibit – Annual Exhibition, 1986. *Proc. Trans. Br. Ent. Nat. Hist. Soc.* **20**: 53) and wrote a note (Langmaid, 1988. *Ent. Rec.* **100**: 162). The second specimen was taken by the late Mr B. Baker, also at light, at Unhill Wood, Berks (VC22) on 15 June 1984. He exhibited it tentatively as *C. illutana* (Baker, 1985. Exhibit – Annual Exhibition, 1984. *Proc. Trans. Br. Ent. Nat. Hist. Soc.* **18**: 1-22), and his identification was confirmed by Mr J. Bradley, who wrote a full description of the imago, its genitalia, life history, foodplants and continental distribution (Bradley, 1986. *Ent. Gaz.* **36**: 97-101). Larvae were found in cones of *Larix decidua* on 6 August 1989 at Tubney Wood (VC22, formerly Berks but now Oxon) by Mr M. F. V. Corlett *et al* (Baker, 1994. *The butterflies and moths of Berkshire*, p. 130). Then, an adult was taken at mercury vapour light at RAF Chilmark, Wilts (VC8) on 8 June 1993 (Palmer, 1995. *Ent. Gaz.* **46**: 277; Agassiz *et al.*, 1996. *Ent. Rec.* **108**: 177-193), and now the two at Coggeshall, Essex (VC19). – BRIAN GOODEY, 298 Ipswich Road, Colchester, Essex CO4 4ET (E-mail: aave45@dia1.pipex.com).

***Diasema reticularis* L. (Lep.: Pyralidae) in Devon**

On 30 July 1999, an example of this species was captured at Bideford, North Devon by Dr Adrian Henderson. The identification was confirmed by myself, and it has since been exhibited at the AES Exhibition on 2 October 1999, the BENHS Exhibition on 27 November 1999 and the Devonshire Association AGM on 22 January 2000. The history of the species in Devon is a bit hazy. E. S. Norcombe said that he captured it (with no locality) around 1858 (*Entomologists Weekly Intelligencer* **4**: 157). J. J. Reading quotes “about two dozen” at Plymouth in June